



PATENT APPLICATION

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Tatsuo FUKUI

Group Art Unit: 2877

Application No.: 09/897,904

Examiner: G. Stock

Filed: July 5, 2001

Docket No.: 109686

For: APPARATUS FOR DETECTING OPTICAL POSITIONAL DEVIATION

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the January 30, 2003 Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 6, lines 7-20, delete current paragraph and insert therefore:

It is therefore preferable that the image field area adjustment mechanism adjusts the image field area on the basis of the asymmetric focus characteristic curve of the line and space (L/S) mark pattern image obtained when the L/S mark pattern image is formed within the image field area of the imaging device. Further, it is also preferable that the image field area adjustment mechanism adjusts the image field area so that the asymmetric focus characteristic curve of the L/S mark pattern image obtained when the L/S mark pattern image is formed within the image field area of the imaging device, exhibits a characteristic that is symmetric to the center of the visual field.

Page 10, line 26-page 11, line 13, delete current paragraph and insert therefore:

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